

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Iran/Soviet Union
SUBJECT Soviet Anti-Locust Activities

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1. [REDACTED] Minister of Posts, Telephone, and Telegraph Seifollah Moazemi gave a very favorable report on Soviet anti-locust activities. He stated that the Soviets requested that they be permitted to finish the job in all of Fars Province.¹
2. Moazemi stated that the Americans had promised planes but that, after three months of waiting, the Americans now say that the planes are due in Iran in "seventeen days." Moazemi asked the advice of the Cabinet regarding the Soviet request, in view of the slowness of the Americans.
3. The majority of the Cabinet first agreed to allow the Soviets to proceed but later decided to set a time limit for the arrival of the American planes. If the Americans fail to meet the deadline, the Soviets will be permitted to finish the job.²

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Comments.

1. Fars Province is located in southwestern Iran, approximately 500 miles from the Soviet border.
2. According to a 4 April 1953 Tehran radio broadcast, it has been decided to send ten Soviet planes, pilots, and all their experts to Fars on 7 April to start the anti-locust fight as soon as possible.

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